Agricultural delegations to foreign countires

2124. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of delegations from the Ministry of Agriculture and Department of Agricultural Research and Education sponsored to visit foreign countries, alongwith the size of delegations, the names of countries visited, during the last five years and the purpose thereof; and

(b) how much expenditure was incurred on the visits of these delegations, the schedule of stay in foreign countries and the allowances they received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Weevil menace to banana crop

2125. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka is one of the leading banana growing State and is blessed with good environment to grow banana;

(b) whether Weevil menace to banana crop in the State is causing serious threat to banana plantations; and

(c) if so, "the details of steps Government propose to take to contain/eradicate Weevil menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Following are the steps taken by the Government:

(i) Application of systemic granular insecticides/nematicides to control banana weevil;

(ii) Organising field demonstration for educating farmers about